

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

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Soviet and East German military activities  
observed prior to 6 February 1955:

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A. Soviet Activities:

1. General: Exercises lasting several days were continued near the posts. Artillery, AAA and tank firing practices at the training fields were intensified. Winter exercises in which all elements of the 9th Rifle Corps participated took place in the area of Wittstock between 20 and 28 January.
2. First Guards Mechanized Army: An artillery battalion with 12 x 122 mm howitzers, 2 x 76 mm guns and 25 trucks moved into Camp Zeithain on 18 January. Seventeen armored personnel carriers and four trucks with 57 mm AT guns and 120 mm mortars moved from Zeithain to Oschatz. On 25 January, 16 armored personnel carriers towing 57 mm AT guns and 12 trucks with approximately 150 men were detrained at the Roederau railroad station and moved into the Mudra Kaserne (1801) in Riesa. According to vehicle numbers, the troops observed on 18 and 25 January belonged to the 9th Tank Division. A unit of the 8th Guards Mechanized Division with three T-34 tanks, 12 armored personnel carriers, six AT guns and 20 trucks was detrained at the Koenigsbrueck railroad station on 21 January.
3. Second Guards Mechanized Army:
  - a. Wittstock Training Grounds: Artillery and tank firing was conducted continuously by units of the 12th Guards Tank Division in the south sector of the training grounds between 22 January and 2 February. Tank firing took

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SECRET

- 2 -

place on the night of 1 to 2 February. On 2 February, five new T-54 tanks of the 12th Tank Division were engaged in driving practice at the Gentzrode training field north of Neuruppin.

- b. Jueterbog Training Grounds: The following shipments to and from the Jueterbog training area took place between 23 January and 2 February:

Date	No. of Trains	From	To	Description
23-28 January	3	Neustrelitz	Forst Zinna	
27-29 January	2	Forst Zinna	Neustrelitz	
	5	Forst Zinna	Fuerstenberg	Artillery Units of the 9th Guards Tank Division
26-27 January	5	Forst Zinna	Dallgow	Artillery Units of the 1st Mechanized Division
27-28 January	4	Neuruppin	Forst Zinna	
1-2 February	4	Forst Zinna	Neuruppin	Artillery Units of the 12th Guards Tank Division.

#### 4. Fourth Guards Mechanized Army:

One shipment each with elements of the 71st Light Artillery Brigade and the 10th Guards Tank Division were dispatched to Templin for firing practice on 18 and 19 January respectively. Four trains, presumably returning elements of the 71st Light Artillery Brigade from firing practice in Doberitz, went from Satzborn to Bernau on 27 and 28 January. A column with 10 rocket launchers and 13 trucks went from Bernau to Eberswalde on 28 January.

#### 5. Third Shock Army:

- a. The following trains were dispatched to Dranse in connection with the special exercise of the 9th Rifle Corps in the Wittstock area: one train with 50 converted boxcars from the direction of Wittstock on 20 January; one train with one converted boxcar and one flatcar from Bernburg on 21 January; nine trains from Schwerin, Parchim and Perleberg with tanks, AT guns and heavy artillery pieces between 20 and 24 January. Large columns moved by road from Perleberg toward Wittstock on the night of 20 to 21 January. Night artillery firing and bombing practice occurred between 26 and 28 January. On 27 January, eight return shipments were made from the Dranse and Wittstock railroad stations, the major assembly area. The corps artillery brigade was detrained in Schwerin.
- b. Troops of the 94th Guards Rifle Division returned in five trains from Litzow Heath on 19 and 20 January. On 22 January, a train with the number 78261 went from Haldensleben to Halberstadt. A shipment from Guestrow to Letzlingen was made on 29 January. Twenty-one 100 mm AT guns were sent from Frankfurt/Oder to Magdeburg on 28 January.

#### 6. Eighth Guards Army:

A unit with 15 AT guns moved into the Infanterie Kaserne (8002) in Altenburg on 25 January. During January, 152 mm gun howitzers had repeatedly been observed there. Elements of the 308th Artillery Brigade with 100 mm AT guns and 152 and 122 mm howitzers returned to Gera from the Milbitz training area on 28 January. A contingent of 500 NCO's and trained personnel arrived at the post of the 76th Artillery Brigade in Merseburg on 20 January. Up to 23 January, the brigade conducted training with 152 mm gun howitzers. The 174th Guards Rifle Regiment of the

SECRET

SECRET

25X1

- 3 -

6th Guards Rifle Division returned to the Infanterie Kaserne (8521) in Weissenfels on 31 January after completing a several day long training exercise. A reconnaissance battalion with AT guns and mortars moved through Erfurt enroute toward Gotha on 2 February.

#### 7. Fourth Artillery Corps:

A unit with 20 x 37 mm AA guns, 30 to 40 trucks and billeting equipment was entrained in Chemnitz on 11 January. Additional equipment, clothing and ammunition were entrained on 12 January.

#### 8. Troop Trains to and from Training Grounds:

Date	No. of Trains	From	To	Description
<b>a. <u>Altengrabow</u></b>				
15 January	1	Brandenburg	Altengrabow	
23-24 January	1	Brandenburg	Altengrabow	
26-27 January	2	Altengrabow	Brandenburg	
26 January	3	Wildpark	Altengrabow	
	3	Altengrabow	Wildpark	
29 January	3	Wildpark	Altengrabow	
	3	Altengrabow	Wildpark	
1 February	3	Altengrabow	Wildpark	Gun howitzers of the 34th Artillery Division
	2	Dallgow	Altengrabow	Heavy AT unit of the 2nd Light Artillery Brigade
3 February	3	Altengrabow	Velten	
5 February	2	Brandenburg	Altengrabow	203 and 122 mm howitzers of the 124th Heavy Howitzer Brigade
<b>b. <u>Wustrow</u></b>				
13 January	1	Schwerin		
	1	Stendal		
18 January	2	Dresden		
20 January	2	Halle/Angersdorf		

#### B. East German Military Activities:

- Exercises: The exercises of Mechanized Division Potsdam at the Perchels-Mahlitz training field were continued. The 2nd Mechanized Regiment and the AAA Regiment of the division were in the area on 25 January, and, since 1 February, the reconnaissance battalion of the division has also joined in the exercises. A one day demonstration for 800 officers of the KVP Department of the Ministry of Interior took place in mid-January. Four JSU schools of JSU-122's arrived in Oranienburg on 21 January.
- Reconnaissance and Pre-Military Training: A six to eight week training course for older age classes was allegedly scheduled to start sometime after mid-January. The SED is in charge of registration for this course. Pre-military training was to begin at all schools in the near future.

Comment. Elements of the 6th Guards AAA Division were shipped either to the uranium mining area or to Wustrow. 25X1

Comment. The age and background -- veteran, ex-KVP, SED membership, etc. -- of the classes from which the trainees are to be drawn were not indicated. 25X1

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